

REMARKS

In the December 30, 2004 Final Office Action, the Examiner:

- Rejected claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Yokoyama et al.* ("Yokoyama", U.S. Pat. No. 5,695,029); and
- Rejected claims 1-5 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over *Yokoyama* in view of *Beattie et al.* ("Beattie", U.S. Pat. No. 6,325,196 B1).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Yokoyama*. For a proper showing that these claims are anticipated by *Yokoyama*, all elements of each rejected claim must be disclosed in the cited reference. The rejected claims contain one independent claim, namely claim 6.

Independent claim 6 has been amended to place it in a similar form to that allowed by the German Patent Office. Independent claim 6 now requires (i) a single rotating cam¹; (ii) that the cam body is disposed with a cam wall formed in parallel with a rotating plane of the rotating cam², and (iii) that a rotating axis of the rotating cam is arranged above the cam body so that the rotating cam is moved in a locking direction from top to bottom in its engagement with the cam wall of the cam body³.

Unlike the present invention, *Yokoyama* does not disclose, teach or suggest a single rotating cam⁴ and that a rotating axis of the rotating cam is arranged above the cam body so that the rotating cam is moved in a locking direction from top to bottom in its engagement with the cam wall of the cam body⁵.

¹ Support can be found in the Figures, the Abstract and para. 29.

² Support can be found in the Figures, original claim 2, and para. 21.

³ Support can be found in the Figures and para. 25.

⁴ *Yokoyama* discloses a P engaging portion 40 and an N engaging portion 42.

⁵ *Yokoyama* discloses that the engaging portions 40 and 42 rotate about shaft 38 and do not move from top to bottom.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that *Yokoyama* does not disclose, teach, or suggest all of the limitations of amended independent claim 6. Accordingly, *Yokoyama* anticipate independent claim 6 nor any claims that depend therefrom.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over *Yokoyama* in view of *Beattie*. This set of rejected claims contains two independent claims, namely claims 1 and 6. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met, namely:

- 1) There must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings;
- 2) There must be a reasonable expectation of success; and
- 3) The prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art and not based on applicant's disclosure.⁶

Both independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended to include (i) a single rotating cam⁷; (ii) that the cam body is disposed with a cam wall formed in parallel with a rotating plane of the rotating cam⁸, and (iii) that a rotating axis of the rotating cam is arranged above the cam body so that the rotating cam is moved in a locking direction from top to bottom in its engagement with the cam wall of the cam body.⁹

As shown above, *Yokoyama* does not disclose, teach or suggest a single rotating cam and that a rotating axis of the rotating cam is arranged above the cam body so that the rotating cam is moved in a locking direction from top to bottom in its engagement with the cam wall of the cam body. *Beattie* also does not disclose either of these two claim elements. Accordingly, the combination of *Yokoyama* and *Beattie* does not teach or suggest all the

⁶ *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

⁷ Support can be found in the Figures, the Abstract and para. 29.

⁸ Support can be found in the Figures, original claim 2, and para. 21.

⁹ Support can be found in the Figures and para. 25.

claim limitations. Therefore, claims 1-5 and 10-13 cannot be unpatentable over *Yokoyama* in view of *Beattie*, as the prior art references do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

New Claims

Applicants have added new claims 14-18. These new claims are a variation of the amended claims, and, therefore do not contain any new subject matter. Furthermore, for the same reasons set forth above, these new claims are also patentable over the cited art.

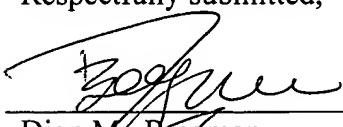
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in a condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner believe that the claims are not in condition for allowance, the Applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned attorney at 650-843-7519 to set up an interview.

If there are any fees or credits due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, including any fees required for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136, authorization is given to charge any necessary fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (order No. 060945-0089-US). A copy of this sheet is enclosed for such purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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